## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

MARGARET CRAIG, as next of kin and personal representative of the estate of Angela Hulsey,

Plaintiff

VS.

CHEATHAM COUNTY, TENNESSEE, BEN MOORE, MARK BRYANT, STEPHANIE GIZZI-BELL, JESSICA PLANK, et al., Case No. 3:17-cv-01335

JURY DEMAND JUDGE CAMPBELL MAGISTRATE HOLMES

Defendants

The deposition of

JULI GARNER HORTON, M.D.

May 29, 2019

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CHERYL H. CARTER, RPR, LCR, CCR
Accurate Court Reporting
P.O. Box 682683
Franklin, TN 37068
(615) 244-DEPO or 244-3376
www.ACR-Nashville.com

1 someone is suffering from withdrawal or staph
2 bacteremia."

- When you say "withdrawal," are you talking about drug withdrawal?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Are you able to give an opinion of whether or not Ms. Hulsey was actually suffering from any type of withdrawal during this period of time?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. The fact that she had positive drug screens prior to going to the jail, does that tell you in terms of proximity to her arrest when was the last time she actually may have used a drug?
- It may tell someone that. I don't know. 14 Α. 15 These different drugs have different half-lives, so some 16 may have been there for a long time. Some -- I only 17 know cocaine has a very short one, so if that's there, it's probably been recent use. Other ones I can't tell 18 19 you specifically how long, what that means. I would say recently, so... 20
- Q. Part of taking a deposition like this is also kind of an elimination process, and I want to make sure that if this case goes to trial that you're not going to start giving opinions about drug half-lives and whether or not she was suffering withdrawal or anything of that

1 nature.

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- As we sit here today, do you have any opinions about whether she was actually suffering from any type of drug withdrawal?
  - A. I do not.
  - Q. Okay. When you're talking about distinguishing between whether it is withdrawal or whether it's an infection, would you first agree that drug withdrawal can also be a serious medical condition?
- 10 A. Yes.
  - Q. Is there particular ways in which medical professionals are able to distinguish between a person who is withdrawing or somebody that has an infection?
- I think oftentimes it's a clinical scenario 14 Α. 15 where we -- patient gives a history of drug use. 16 in that window period patients will often tell you these 17 are what my withdrawal symptoms are like, and I think it's a -- basically a process of elimination. 18 19 there's some concern that there's something more to it than just simple withdrawal, infection -- obviously 20 21 tests for infection would involve blood work and 22 cultures and other -- you know, measuring their vital 23 signs and other things which may help to lead one down 24 one path versus another.
  - Q. And can you have both at the same time, you

1 have an infection and be withdrawing from drugs?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Would that make either or the other more serious?
  - A. Potentially, yes.
  - Q. Now, you use a phrase here, and we've talked about it a little bit, but you talk about "Ms. Hulsey's fecal incontinence was an alarming symptom."
- 9 I'm assuming "alarming symptom" is not a
  10 particularly medical specific term, but when you're
  11 using this phrase "alarming symptom," what do you mean
  12 by that?
- A. I mean, it's not something you often hear

  patients complain about or it's something that catches

  my attention when I hear someone say that.
  - Q. All right. In what way?
  - What would you -- how would you respond then with that type of information?
- A. Well, I would want to know more surrounding
  that. What led to that, what -- often what does the
  patient think this is. Has this happened before. How
- 22 many times has this happened. Am I giving you a
- 23 medicine that's causing this to happen. Is there
- 24 further -- is there further investigation that was
- 25 warranted based on that as opposed to something like

- 1 with seizures.
- Q. All right. Do you know if she was
- 3 unresponsive during that time?
- 4 A. I believe there was some testimony that she
- 5 was answering questions or answer -- responding in some
- 6 way.
- 7 Q. Do you know what was being done at the time
- 8 that she exhibited these seizure-like symptoms to
- 9 Ms. Durham?
- MR. BEEMER: Object to the form.
- 11 A. I'm not sure I specifically recall.
- 12 Q. (By Mr. Moseley) Okay. Do you recall if her
- 13 vital signs were being taken?
- 14 A. I don't recall.
- 15 Q. In your opinion, is that event a sign of a
- 16 serious medical condition?
- 17 A. It could be a sign of a serious medical
- 18 condition. I think syncopal episodes happen frequently
- 19 and often resolve, and they're not serious medical
- 20 conditions. Again, working on the description of this,
- 21 | I think it's difficult to say.
- 22 Q. You're aware that Ms. Durham described it as a
- 23 seizure event?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Assuming it was a seizure event, would

1 you consider that a serious medical condition?

- 2 MR. BEEMER: Object to the form.
- 3 MS. WILLIAMS: Same.
  - A. If she had had a seizure, yes.
- Q. (By Mr. Moseley) And would the proper response have been to either contact a doctor or take her to the hospital?
- 8 A. Yes.

- 9 Q. Going to the, I guess, second to the last
  10 paragraph on the last page of your report, it's your
  11 opinion she suffered an anoxic brain injury related to
  12 septic shock?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And that was following her heart attack that, again, was caused by the infection?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. The last sentence of that paragraph says, "It would be speculation as to whether transferring her to the hospital on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, after she appeared to have a seizure would have changed this outcome."
- 21 What is that based on?
- A. Well, I think we don't know what would have happened had she gone to the hospital, what treatment would have been rendered, what investigation -- what workup would have been done.